



October 29, 2015

Decision 20957-D01-2015

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)
7210 – 42 Street N.W.
Edmonton, Alberta T6B 3H1

Attention: Amy Boettger, P. Eng.
Project Engineer, Operations Engineering

**Fort McMurray Airport Lateral Pipeline Removal and Replacement
Licence 11208
Proceeding 20957
Application 20957-A001**

Minor pipeline project application

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by Application 20957-A001 registered on October 26, 2015, filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission under Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the following in the Fort McMurray area:

- splitting Line 4 into lines 4, 10 and 11
- removal of Line 10
- lines 4 and 11 are to remain in operation
- addition of a newly constructed pipeline (Line 12 - 0.15 kilometres of 88.9-millimetre outside-diameter pipeline)

2. The proposed work is related to the minor removal and replacement of existing pipe, within the original right-of-way, for a line previously constructed and operating in accordance with approvals granted in Licence 11208.

3. ATCO stated that the Municipality of Wood Buffalo requested the relocation of a section of the Fort McMurray Airport lateral pipeline, Line 10, in order to accommodate the upgrading of Highway 69.

4. ATCO stated that the total cost of the project was estimated to be \$675,000. The costs incurred by the project would be fully reimbursed by the Municipality of Wood Buffalo. The Commission accepts ATCO's assessment that this project meets the criteria for an abbreviated need project, as per Table 3.1 in Section 3.3 of Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*, since it is a relocation project for existing facilities where the project is reimbursed under the terms of a third party contribution, the project costs are forecast at less than \$2,000,000 and there are no unresolved interested party objections or significant environmental impacts.

5. ATCO stated that its search of historical resources listings, maintained by Alberta Culture and Tourism, identified a historical resource within the project area. ATCO applied to Alberta Culture and Tourism for *Historical Resources Act* clearance for this project on October 6, 2015, and obtained the approved clearance on October 21, 2015.
6. ATCO stated that the pipeline would be tested for liquids prior to removal and any liquids found would be removed and properly disposed of. The topsoil would be stripped and stored and all surface disturbances would be backfilled before the topsoil is returned.
7. ATCO stated that consultation with landowners and occupants for this work has been completed in accordance with Rule 020. Confirmation of non-objection from directly and adversely affected landowners and occupants has been obtained by ATCO. Construction was proposed to begin in December of 2015.
8. ATCO has provided information respecting the need, nature and extent of the project. Since the project involves no significant ground disturbance and is within the original right-of-way, the resultant environmental impact of the work has been assessed with no significant impact identified. The landowners and occupants of the affected lands did not object to the project.
9. Based upon the information provided, ATCO has demonstrated that the proposal is of a minor nature, no person other than the landowners and occupants of the land upon which the project takes place will likely be directly affected by the proposal, and no significant adverse environmental impact will be caused by the proposed project.
10. The Commission approves the application. The amended licence is attached.

Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Wade Vienneau
Executive Director, Facilities Division
On behalf of the Alberta Utilities Commission

Attachment